

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 9, 2008

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 9, 2008

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1393**

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**Introduced by Senator Scott**

February 21, 2008

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An act to amend Sections 66055.8 and 78261.3 of the Education Code, relating to nursing programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1393, as amended, Scott. Nursing programs.

(1) Existing law provides that a student of a registered nursing program at a campus of the California State University or California Community Colleges, who holds a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, may not be required to complete general education requirements. Instead, the student may only be required to complete coursework that is necessary for licensing as a registered nurse.

This bill would specifically prohibit a campus of the California State University or California Community Colleges from requiring a student of a registered nursing program with a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution to complete any coursework other than that which is unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree from that institution.

(2) Existing law prohibits a community college district from excluding an applicant to a registered nursing program on the sole basis that the applicant is not a resident of that district or has not completed prerequisite courses in that district.

This bill would instead specify that a district is prohibited from *either* excluding an applicant on the basis that the applicant is not a district

resident or has not completed prerequisite courses in that district *or implementing policies, procedures, and systems, including, but not limited to, priority registration systems, that have the effect of excluding an applicant or student who is not a resident of that district from a registered nursing program of that district.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.

State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 66055.8 of the Education Code is  
2 amended to read:

3 66055.8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a campus  
4 of the California State University or the California Community  
5 Colleges that operates a registered nursing program shall not  
6 require a student who has been admitted to that registered nursing  
7 program and who has already earned a baccalaureate or higher  
8 degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education  
9 to undertake any coursework other than the coursework that is  
10 unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree from that  
11 institution.

12 SEC. 2. Section 78261.3 of the Education Code is amended to  
13 read:

14 78261.3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

15 (a) Any community college district, irrespective of whether it  
16 participates in the program established by this article, may use any  
17 diagnostic assessment tool that is commonly used in registered  
18 nursing programs and is approved by the chancellor.

19 (b) If, after using an approved diagnostic assessment tool, a  
20 community college registered nursing program determines that  
21 the number of applicants to that program exceeds its capacity, the  
22 program is authorized to use additional multicriteria screening  
23 measures. This subdivision does not prohibit or prevent a  
24 community college registered nursing program from using an  
25 approved diagnostic assessment tool before or during a multicriteria  
26 screening process.

27 ~~(c) A community college district may not exclude an applicant~~  
28 ~~to a registered nursing program on the basis that the applicant is~~  
29 ~~not a resident of that district or has not completed prerequisite~~  
30 ~~courses in that district.~~

1     (c) A community college district may not do either of the  
2 following:

3     (1) Exclude an applicant to a registered nursing program on  
4 the basis that the applicant is not a resident of that district or has  
5 not completed prerequisite courses in that district.

6     (2) Implement policies, procedures, and systems, including, but  
7 not limited to, priority registration systems, that have the effect of  
8 excluding an applicant or student who is not a resident of that  
9 district from a registered nursing program of that district.